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LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERIES

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The COUNTY COUNCIL

by
H. SAMUELS

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THE COUNTY COUNCIL

What it Is and What it Does

by

H. SAMUELS

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NOTE *This pamphlet, like all publications of the Fabian Society, represents not the collective view of the Society but only the view of the individual who prepared it. The responsibility of the Fabian Society is limited to approving the publications which it issues as embodying facts and opinions worthy of consideration within the Labour Movement. It is the aim of the Society to "encourage among socialists a high standard of free and independent research.*

THE COUNTY COUNCIL :

What it Is and What it Does

1 Introductory

EXTENT OF SUBJECT MATTER

This booklet deals with the County Councils of England and Wales *minus* the London County Council. It is concerned with their powers and duties under the existing law and not with changes which may result from the adoption of proposals for reform or from legislation which has not yet passed the initial stages.

THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S "CHARTER."

The County Council is a "body corporate," that is to say, it has by a process of legislation obtained the status of a separate "person" as distinct from the various persons who are its members. The legislation or "incorporation" of bodies corporate takes place by a charter or statute—(e.g., a limited company—the commonest form of a "body corporate"—is formed either under the Companies Acts or by Royal Charter). The County Council was formed as a body corporate by the Local Government Act, 1888, which laid down detailed provisions as to its constitution, at the same time both transferring to it functions hitherto exercised by other bodies or individuals and providing for further transfers of functions in the future. The Act is a lengthy one, and is divided into five parts as follows:—

PART I.—FORMATION AND POWERS. Constitution (ss. 1—2), Powers (ss. 3—19), Exchequer Grants (ss. 20—27), Power to delegate, Settlement of disputes, Standing Joint Committee (ss. 28—30).

PART II.—SPECIAL PLACES. County Boroughs and Non-County Boroughs (ss. 31—39), London County Council (ss. 40—45), Administrative counties with special boundaries (ss. 46—49).

PART III.—BOUNDARIES. Electoral divisions and areas within county (ss. 50—63).

PART IV.—FINANCE. (ss. 64—75).

PART V.—Supplemental and Miscellaneous Provisions (ss. 76—end).

Since this is the Act which created the County Council, one has not to go further back in seeking the authority for any of that body's powers or duties, but on the other hand the latter have been greatly extended by statutes passed subsequently, the more important of which we shall notice in the course of these pages.

The Act which has done so much to enlarge the County Council's powers is the Local Government Act, 1929. In addition to effecting a complete change in their system of finance this enactment transferred the whole system of poor relief—or "public assistance" as, following the nomenclature introduced by this statute, it is now called—to the County Councils and County Borough Councils, placed in the hands of the County Councils the highway powers of the Rural District Councils, and vested in the County Councils all classified roads in urban districts and non-county boroughs.

The Act of 1888 has itself been amended in many respects by the Local Government Act, 1933, as a result of the researches of the Local Government

and Public Health Consolidation Committee, a body appointed to secure simplicity and uniformity in the law relating to local authorities' functions.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY

The County Council is then a body corporate, and—to complete the definition—governing the “administrative county.” The administrative counties are in most instances the same as the geographical counties we see marked on the map, except that large cities which were in 1888 or later given the status of county boroughs are not included. In certain cases too there are other differences. Thus Yorkshire and Lincolnshire are each divided into three administrative counties, Suffolk and Sussex each into two, while the Isle of Ely, the Isle of Wight and the “Soke” of Peterborough are each separate administrative counties. The Moot Hall in Newcastle-on-Tyne is an instance of part of the administrative county lying outside its area, Newcastle itself being a County Borough and the Moot Hall being part of the Northumberland County Council's sphere. England has 49 administrative counties outside London, Wales 12. There are 83 County Boroughs, three of which are in Wales.

2 Constitution

COMPOSITION

The County Council consists of councillors and aldermen presided over by a chairman. The number of councillors was originally fixed by the Local Government Board (the predecessor of the Ministry of Health) and is subject to alteration by the Home Secretary. The Councillors hold office for three years and retire together. Aldermen number one-third the number of the councillors, and are elected by the latter from among themselves or from persons qualified to be elected to the Council. They hold office for six years, half retiring every third year. If a councillor is elected alderman, his seat as councillor becomes vacant. The Chairman is elected by the councillors and aldermen from among persons qualified to be elected to the Council.

THE FRANCHISE: QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

All persons whose names appear on the electoral register for Parliamentary elections are entitled to vote at elections for the Council (Representation of the People Act, 1945), and in addition members of the House of Lords have the *local* vote.

Candidates for the council must *either* be thus qualified for registration as electors, *or* must own property within the county, or have lived there for the whole of the last twelve months, besides being of full age and British subjects. But they are disqualified if they hold a paid post under the Council other than Chairman, Mayor or Sheriff, or have been made bankrupt within the last five years, or have been convicted within the last five years and sentenced to three months imprisonment without the option of a fine, or been surcharged more than £500 or been disqualified for corrupt or illegal practices, or if he or his wife or child under 16 have within a year prior to the election received poor relief (other than medical or surgical treatment or relief as a blind person or maintenance as a pauper lunatic).

ELECTIONS

Elections to the council are held every third year between 1st—8th March. One member is elected by ballot for each electoral division in the county. Where

it is desired to contest the validity of an election the procedure is by Election Petition. An application has to be lodged within 28 days if bribery is alleged, and within 21 days otherwise.

COMMITTEES

Most of the work of the County Council is carried on by means of Committees. This system is one of the essential features of English local government. With us the councillor is more than a member of a deliberative body merely: he has also to share the responsibility of the carrying out of the main body's decisions and of the general work of local government in one or more of its departments, since each department is entrusted to a committee consisting wholly or mainly of councillors.

Some of these Committees are "statutory"—that is to say, the Council is obliged to form them by some statute or other which also as a rule prescribes how they shall be formed and what powers they shall have. These "statutory committees" are:—

<i>Name</i>	<i>Statute</i>	<i>Composition</i>	<i>Powers</i>
STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE	s. 30 of 1888 Act.	Half appointed by C.C., half by Quarter Sessions.	Controls police expenditure.
FINANCE COMMITTEE	s. 86 of 1933 Act.	Members. only.	Controls all C.C. expenditure.
PENSIONS COMMITTEE	s. 8 Old Age Pensions Act, 1908.	Not less than 7 or more than number of Council: women and non-councillors may be included.	Full powers to decide claims.
VISITING COMMITTEE	s. 169 Lunacy Act, 1890.	Seven, appointed annually, including at least two women. One-third may be non-councillors.	v. page 18.
EDUCATION COMMITTEE	Education Act, 1944.	Scheme to be approved by Bd. of Education: women and specialists to be included.	May have any powers delegated to them except raising a rate or loan.
COMMITTEE FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES	s. 28 Mental Deficiency Act, 1913	Must include some women and some experts.	do.
AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE	s. 7 Ministry of Agriculture Act, 1919.	Majority to be Councillors: women and nominees of Ministry of Agriculture to be included.	do.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Statute</i>	<i>Composition</i>	<i>Powers</i>
DISEASES OF ANIMALS COMMITTEE	s. 31 D. of Animals Act, 1894.	May include rated occupiers.	May have any powers delegated to them except raising a rate or loan.
SMALL HOLDINGS AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE	s. 50 Small Holdings Act, 1908.	Must include representatives of tenants.	do.
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE	Public Health Act, 1936.	Two women at least : one-third may be non-councillor experts.	do.
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE	s. 6 Local Government Act, 1929.	One-third may be non-councillors including women.	All matters of Public Assistance except raising a rate or loan.

MEETINGS: RIGHTS OF PRESS AND ELECTORS

Besides the annual meeting, at least one meeting must be held every three months. One quarter of the members must be present to form a quorum ordinarily, but two-thirds for the purpose of passing bye-laws. Absence from meetings for six months disqualifies a councillor from membership of the Council unless excuse is made and accepted. The Council makes its own Standing Orders to regulate its procedure. Minutes must be kept of all meetings, whether of the Council or of the Committees. The names of all members present must be recorded. The Press is ordinarily entitled to attend meetings of the Council, but not if a special resolution of the Council forbids it in the interests of public policy, nor has the Press the right of attending meetings of a Committee. Any elector may inspect and copy the Council minutes on payment of a fee not exceeding one shilling.

COUNCILLORS AND CONTRACTS

A councillor must not participate in the consideration or discussion of any contract or matter in which he has any direct or indirect pecuniary interest. (The meaning of "having a pecuniary interest" is, with certain exceptions, extended so as to apply to members of companies, persons whose nominees are members of companies, partners and employees, husbands whose wives are pecuniarily interested and vice versa.)

The councillor, if present when the contract or matter is under consideration, must forthwith disclose the fact that he is pecuniarily interested. Such disclosures are to be recorded by the clerk, and the book is to be open to inspection by members of the authority.

The local authority may, by standing orders, provide for the exclusion of a councillor from a meeting while the contract or other matter is under consideration.

For failure to comply with these provisions a councillor is liable on a summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50 for each offence; but prosecution can only be instituted by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

3 Administration

No machine can be efficient unless it works smoothly, and members of councils should make it their business to ascertain whether the organisation of the staff is so good that it calls for no improvement.

The office of CLERK of the Council was until July, 1931, always held by the same person—usually a barrister or solicitor—as that of Clerk of the Peace. The appointment was for life, and was made by the Standing Joint Committee. Since that date, however, any appointment as Clerk to the County Council has to be made by the County Council, and although the same person may subsequently be appointed Clerk of the Peace the two offices are distinct and separate, the appointment of Clerk of the Peace being made by Quarter Sessions. The tenure of the office of Clerk of the County Council is, in the case of those appointed before July, 1931, during good behaviour; those appointed after July, 1931, hold office during the pleasure of the County Council, but may only be dismissed with the written consent of the Minister of Health. The retirement age is 65, subject to certain exceptions. The office of Clerk and Treasurer are not to be held by the same person, nor by persons who are in the relation of partners or of employer and employee.

The CHIEF CONSTABLE is also appointed by the Joint Committee, subject to the approval of the Home Secretary. He is removable by the Joint Committee.

The CORONER is appointed and paid by the Council. His office is permanent, but he may be removed for misconduct or incompetence by the Lord Chancellor. He can, subject to the approval of the Chairman, appoint a deputy: the latter is paid by fees, and can act in the event of the Coroner's death. In the larger counties the Council appoints separate coroners for different areas. It also appoints coroners for those boroughs which have their own Quarter Sessions.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH is appointed and paid by the Council, but can only be dismissed by them with the consent of the Ministry of Health. He can hold no other public appointment without the Minister's consent and is debarred from engaging in private practice. His executive duties are chiefly in maternity, child welfare, tuberculosis and venereal disease; otherwise his function is mainly advisory and co-ordinating. The Medical Officers of the District Councils are not subject to his authority, but they must send him copies of their reports (see page 12).

Other officers are the Treasurer, County Surveyor, Public Analyst, Director of Education, and Inspectors under various Acts.

RELATIONS BETWEEN DEPARTMENTS

Authorities differ very considerably in the internal organisation of their offices. Some prefer to look to one officer in all matters, that is to say the Clerk, the other heads of Departments having to submit their reports to the Council through him. This arrangement has a certain backing in official quarters, but Councils should exercise independence in this matter. While it possesses a certain simplicity it is doubtful whether there is any other gain, and very strong reasons should be shown before one officer is put in a position of virtual responsibility for other qualified persons who are directing spheres in which he has no special knowledge.

LEGAL POSITION OF OFFICERS

Officers cannot be considered to hold any privileged position in the eyes of the law except in one respect, viz., all proceedings against them for acts done in the performance of their public duties must be commenced within one year of the acts in question (Limitation Act, 1939). On the other hand,

they are subject to certain special restrictions. They may not receive any fees other than their salaries, and may not have an interest in a contract with the Council except (1) as shareholders of joint stock companies, (2) in the case of contracts to sell or acquire land, rooms, or offices; and in these excepted cases two-thirds of the members of the Council must have given their sanction.

The Council can at any time call for a written account from its officers of money and any other matters entrusted to them, and in the case of officers whose work involves the handling of sums of money, the Council must either require them to give security or themselves take security.

PENSIONS

The Council is subject to the Local Government Superannuation Act (1937), which provides that each member of the staff must contribute a percentage of his salary, which varies according to certain conditions, to the Superannuation Fund. The benefits are: one-sixtieth of the average salary earned during the five years preceding retirement for every year's service, with a minimum of ten years' service, and a maximum of forty-sixtieths. Retirement takes place either at age 65 or at age 60 after 40 years' service, or on incapacitation owing to permanent ill health.

4 Finance

INCOME

All receipts are paid into the County Fund, and all payments are made thence.

The income of the County Council is made up partly of Government grants, as follows:—

(1) The General Exchequer Grant. This is the amount apportioned to the county out of the General Exchequer Contributions (voted annually by Parliament) less any sums set aside to be paid to district councils within the county. How the figure of the General Exchequer Contribution and the General Exchequer Grants are made up are matters too complex to be explained in detail in this pamphlet. Suffice it to say that from the present date till 1947 each county receives annually as its apportionment a stated proportion—beginning from 75% and ending at 25%—of the losses it has incurred by the derating provisions of the Local Government Act, 1929, and the termination of the old fixed grants (Estate Duty Grant, Customs and Excise Duty Grant, and Agricultural Rates Grant) and the old percentage grants (relating to tuberculosis, venereal disease, blind welfare, and maternity and child welfare), and *in addition* an amount determined on the basis of its weighted population. (By "weighted population" is meant the figure which, by an elaborate mathematical process set out in the Act, is arrived at by giving certain weight to certain particular factors, such as number of children under 5 and number of unemployed.) After 1947 the amount of the General Exchequer Grant will be determined solely on the basis of weighted population.

(2) The Additional Exchequer Grant. The counties have, under the Local Government Act, 1929, been given a guarantee that the amounts they each receive annually from the State shall not be less than a certain figure calculated in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The Additional Exchequer Grant is the amount by which the General Exchequer Grant falls short of that guaranteed figure.

(3) Specific grants, usually calculated as a percentage of total expenditure on a given service, but sometimes variable or (in the case of education) based partly on a formula. The best-known grants are those given for education, Class I and Class II roads, and police forces: but the full list of services covered

includes museum exhibits, reconstruction of rural houses, guarantees to building societies, health visitors, training of midwives, midwifery and cancer services, afforestation, small holdings, agricultural education, land drainage, weed destruction, motor patrols, probation of offenders, approved schools, remand homes, inebriate homes, air-raid precautions, traffic signals, etc., juvenile employment, conveyance of prisoners and registration of electors. Grants are also made towards certain administrative costs. Space does not permit a full analysis in this pamphlet of the different types of specific grant.

Other sources of County income are dues on licences which the County Council issues (game-dealers, motors, locomotives, carriages, guns, armorial bearings, manservants), fines for contravention of bye-laws, etc., tolls, property dues and royalties.

These sources do not together suffice for county needs, however, and the deficiency is made up by the COUNTY RATE. It is levied in the same way as the Poor Rate, the Council serving its "precepts" on the Borough and District Councils in its area. The Council may, and in most cases does, adopt the same basis of valuation of properties as is used for the Poor Rate, but it is not bound to do so.

EXPENDITURE

The Finance Committee must examine the estimates of expenditure both of the Council itself and of the various Committees at the beginning of the financial year, and no payments may be made without the signature of three members of the Committee.

Expenditure is classed as "general" or "special", the former comprising that incurred for the benefit of the whole county or for which the whole county is assessed, while the latter is expenditure on those purposes towards which part of the county is exempt from contributing.

The pre-war expenditure of County Councils was in practice distributed in something like the following proportions: 40% Education (30% elementary, 10% higher), 15% Roads, 15% Police, 10% Agriculture, 10% Mental Hospitals, 10% miscellaneous services.

LOANS

Subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Health in each case, a Council may borrow for a period of sixty years sums to the total extent of one-tenth of the rateable value of the County on the security of all the Council's revenues. Statutes have, however, in many cases authorised loans to be contracted without regard to this limitation.

AUDIT

The accounts must be made up yearly to the 31st March and submitted to the District Auditor, an official of the Ministry of Health. The auditor has powers of compelling the production of information, disallowing any illegal payment, and of surcharging it on the person paying or authorising the payment. He must however give time for objections to be raised; he may be required to state his reasons for a decision in writing; and he cannot disallow an item already sanctioned by the Ministry of Health. There is an appeal from his decision to the Ministry of Health which also has power to "remit" or excuse, the payment of a valid surcharge: alternatively an aggrieved person may appeal to the High Court.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES

The Council may pay travelling expenses incurred by its members or of the members of any of its committees and sub-committees or joint committees in the discharge of their functions, provided that they are discharged over the area of the whole county.

5 Functions

The main functions of the County Council lie in the spheres of education, public health and housing, roads, public assistance, police, and agriculture, and the description of functions which this pamphlet gives follows this classification. But besides the simple differentiation of powers and duties according to subject matter we shall have to notice other less obvious lines of demarcation.

In the first place the administrative county itself contains non-county boroughs, urban districts, and rural districts, and rural districts contain still smaller units of local government, the parishes. All these areas have their elective bodies, and no two classes of elective bodies have identical functions. Consequently, the County Council, which stands so to speak at the top of the ladder, is differently placed in respect to each other class of authority. Its powers are less in relation to non-county boroughs than to urban districts, and less in relation to urban than to rural districts, and they are greater than ever in relation to the rural parishes.

Another important distinction is that between functions which only the County Council may exercise and those for which one of the other authorities may have some measure of responsibility. The second class may again be sub-divided according to whether the County Council has the right to act concurrently with the other authority or its province is that of supervising the latter with power to act in the event of the latter's default—the exercise of this power being as a rule contingent on a complaint being addressed to the County Council by ratepayers or interested persons.

EDUCATION.

The Council and the Child. The County Council may truly be looked upon as the “guardian of the young.” As we shall notice later, it has functions which even precede the child's first appearance on this planet, and its activities do not cease with the child's school career. Not only can it provide all forms of further education or grant scholarships to a university or other place of higher education, but it can supervise the health, welfare and continued education of young people already engaged in industry and protect them by byelaw from harmful occupation. Indeed, of all its independent fields of activity, there is not one which offers more scope for the display of initiative and the execution of progressive ideas than the educational sphere.

Local Administration. Under the Education Act, 1944, Local Education Authorities must be either County Councils, or else County Borough Councils. Of the 146 existing authorities, 63 are County Councils and 83 County Boroughs. The Council acts through its Education Committee, which must include persons of educational experience. Co-option, although allowed, is now no longer necessary. Nor is the old statutory requirement that the Committee must include a minimum number of women. The Committee may approve sub-committees for any purpose, such as, primary or secondary education, special services or staff. Two or more authorities may, with the approval of the Minister, establish a joint Education Committee for dealing with matters of common interest, e.g., technical education, residential schools or colleges.

Content of Education. Under the new Act, the old category “elementary education”, is abolished. Instead of the earlier requirement that all children must receive “efficient instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic”, it is now the duty of parents to cause every child to receive “efficient full-time education suitable to his age, ability and aptitude”. Public education in future must be organised in three stages, namely, primary education, secondary education, and further education.

The Primary School. The primary stage extends from the age of 2 to 12. It is now the duty of L.E.A.'s to provide nursery schools or nursery classes for children whose parents wish them to attend, but a child under 5 is not compelled to do so. Under the new regulations, classes for children between 2 and 3 must not exceed 15, or 30 in the case of children between 3 and 5. Classes for children between 5 and 12 may have a maximum of 40 on the roll against 50 under the old regulations.

The Secondary School. The secondary stage stretches from 12 to 19. Under the new Act, the compulsory school-leaving age for full-time education will be raised from 14 to 15 as from April 1947, and may be raised again to 16 at the discretion of the Minister. The additional year, or two years, of compulsory attendance gives a unique opportunity for a radical reconstruction of the secondary system. As a first step to this end and to establish "parity of status" between different types of school, the present regulations prescribe common standards of building, staffing and amenities—these latter include playing-fields, gymnasia, swimming baths, school camps and other means of recreation and physical training. The necessary variety of school course may be provided in separate schools, or in one comprehensive secondary school. Another important advance on earlier legislation is the abolition of fees in all maintained secondary schools, including grammar schools. The L.E.A. further is empowered to pay tuition fees and, if necessary, boarding fees as well in respect of pupils attending independent or "direct-grant" schools. The latter type of school, which receives grant direct from the Exchequer must offer a minimum of 25% of places to children coming from grant-aided primary schools, and the L.E.A. may reserve in addition 25% of places for selected pupils.

Voluntary Schools. Voluntary or auxiliary schools, primary and secondary, belong to 3 categories, namely:—

(a) *Controlled Schools*, which are unable to pay half the cost of building alterations and repairs. Two out of six managers in this case must be foundation managers. The appointment of teachers and secular instruction is controlled by the L.E.A.; but religious instruction, as in maintained schools, is given according to an "agreed syllabus". "Reserved" teachers may, however, give denominational teaching on two days a week.

(b) *Aided Schools*, which pay one-half of building alterations and repairs. Two-thirds of the governors in this case must be foundation governors, and the governing body is responsible for the appointment of teachers, who are all reserved teachers. In the case of secondary aided schools, control of secondary instruction as well as religious instruction rests with the governors.

(c) *Special Agreement Schools*, which form a small group dating from the Education Act, 1936. In anticipation of a raising of the school-leaving age to 15, these schools had already entered agreements with L.E.A.s under which they were entitled to receive building grants of 50 to 75%, but operation was postponed on the outbreak of war. They come under regulations corresponding to those for aided schools, except that control of secular instruction belongs to the L.E.A.

Further Education. The new Act gives belated effect to the Act of 1918 and as from April 1950, authorities are required to establish county colleges, where young people under 18 not receiving full-time education must attend, during working hours, on one whole day or two half-days a week, or, alternatively, for one continuous period of 8 weeks or two continuous periods of 4 weeks. The curriculum must offer physical, technical and vocational training as well as continued general education. L.E.A.s further have power to establish, maintain or assist teachers' training colleges, schools of arts and crafts, evening and technical institutes and also youth centres and other places

of education and recreation. Or scholarships may be granted and held at a university, a school of music or art, or a technical college.

Special Education. Another statutory requirement is to make arrangements for the educational treatment of handicapped children. Under this heading come special schools for physically or mentally defective children, children's convalescent homes, child guidance clinics, schools or homes for children suffering from tuberculosis or other disease. Authorities further may establish, maintain or assist homes for orphans and other children coming under public assistance, or approved schools and remand homes for delinquent or neglected children referred by a Juvenile Court.

Welfare Services. It is now the duty of authorities to provide not merely periodical medical inspection of children attending all types of school, but also medical treatment for children in need of it. L.E.A.s may run their own treatment centres, or make the necessary arrangements with a local hospital. Under the new Act, all medical treatment must be free of charge. Another service now made obligatory on authorities instead of optional is the provision of meals, milk and other refreshment in all maintained schools or colleges. Since 1938-9, the number of children receiving school dinners has risen from about 4 per cent to 40 per cent, and the Ministry aims at a target of 75 per cent. Charges made to parents must not exceed the cost of the goods and Parliament is already committed to a policy by which all charges will be abolished with the advent of family allowances. Other services include free transport of handicapped children or of children attending school from a distance, and the provision of boots and clothing in necessitous cases.

Control of Employment. Under the new Act, a child cannot be employed until he comes within two years of the compulsory school-leaving age, while the employment of older children of school age is limited to short periods out of school hours and subject to local bye-law. The L.E.A. can prohibit employment altogether or restrict it to certain occupations; it can prescribe hours of work during holidays, and before or after school hours, and make regulations such as will not prejudice health or education. Authorities have also a duty to supervise the welfare and employment of young persons under 18 in part-time attendance at county colleges.

The L.E.A. further has power to appoint a Juvenile Employment Committee for the purpose of vocational guidance. Some authorities have done so, while others have elected instead to be represented on the local or regional Advisory Committee on Juvenile Employment set up under the Ministry of Labour. The schools in recent years have played a growing part in vocational guidance. School records are kept and school-leavers registered with the Juvenile Employment Service.

PUBLIC HEALTH

In this sphere the County Council has most important supervisory functions. Before the County Council was set up the County had already been divided into Sanitary districts under the control of separate authorities whose powers were subsequently merged in those of the District Councils. But the County Council has been made the watch-dog. If a District Council fails to take proper measures for safeguarding public health, the County Council can step in and, with the Ministry of Health's sanction, carry them out at the other's expense. Again it is the duty of the District Medical Officers to send to the County Medical Officers copies of their health reports, and as far as rural districts are concerned, copies of reports of unhealthy houses, while the County Council itself can notify the Ministry of Health where it is dissatisfied with the state of health in a district. Every County Councillor ought, therefore, to make himself acquainted with the District Council's detailed functions in this sphere—the provision of sewers, abatement of nuisances,

food inspection, milk supply, regulation of factories and workshops, prevention and treatment of disease, water supply, slum clearance, closing orders and demolition orders for unhealthy and obstructive buildings, reconstruction schemes, and other services for which space here does not suffice. While it is necessary to preserve the smaller area for the work itself in all its details¹ it is obvious that the District Council with its limited staff and the limited means at its disposal has both its hands full in keeping abreast of everyday requirements, while the County Council with its larger resources, and without the hindrance of matters of detail, can take a wider vision and do much to promote both economy and efficiency by suggesting to District Councils how and where schemes of work can be co-ordinated. In some cases the duty is specified and defined by statute, *e.g.*, in the matter of infectious disease, the Council has to make a scheme for the provision of hospitals for the treatment of infectious disease.

Again, since difficulty is often experienced in the poorer rural districts in providing an adequate water supply or sewerage system, the County Council has in these matters power to contribute to the expenses of any District Council in its area. An Exchequer Contribution can be obtained towards the cost of providing or improving a rural water supply.

But this does not exhaust all the Council's functions in this sphere. It can take the initiative in particular matters and indeed is obliged to do so in some. To these we now proceed.

Tuberculosis. Consumptives must either be maintained in hospitals or sanatoria or have dispensary treatment. Their after-care may also be provided for. The District Councils have powers in the matter, but in practice the work is done by the body which gets the government grant—that is, the County Council.

Lunacy. Asylums must be provided by the Council for pauper lunatics and may be provided for non-paupers. It acts through the Visiting Committee which may buy and hire land, but must obtain the Council's sanction to expenditure over £400 in one year on one institution for anything beyond necessary repairs, and also for the charging to any Union of any amount over 14/- per week per head. Individual members of the Committee are obliged to visit the institution and their inmates regularly.

The Council has to provide accommodation for temporary patients (*i.e.*, persons suffering from mental illness and who would benefit by temporary treatment but incapable of stating whether they are willing to receive such treatment). It may also maintain and provide treatment for voluntary patients or out-patients for payment or otherwise, make provision for the after-care of mental patients, contribute to the funds of voluntary associations for the prevention, treatment or after-care of such patients, and, subject to the Board of Control's approval, engage in or finance research on the subject of mental illness.

Mental Deficiency. The Council has the duty of ascertaining the number of mental defectives in its area and of giving them care and accommodation. It acts through the Committee for the care of Mental Defectives. Expenditure on work which the Council is not obliged to do is limited to the proceeds of a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate. Loans may be contracted for 60 years and are not reckoned as part of the total debt.

Reports must be sent at stated intervals to the Board of Control.

Habitual Drunkards. For the benefit of this class of persons the Council may maintain or contribute towards the upkeep of inebriates' homes. (In boroughs this may also be done by the Borough Council.)

¹ It should, however, be noted here that the County Council may take over any of the District Council's health functions by agreement between the two bodies.

Venereal Diseases. The Council is required to take steps to prevent the spread of syphilis and the maladies akin to it, and to submit schemes for Ministry of Health approval.

Welfare of the Blind. The County Council has the duty of looking after the blind and their dependants. In this work it may maintain homes, hospitals and workshops.

Maternity and Child Welfare. Here too though the lesser authorities have concurrent powers in matters other than the supervision of midwives, the County Council is generally the body to act, and it does so through the statutory Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. All maternity homes in the area must be registered with the Council. With regard to midwives, it has to exercise general supervision and may contribute towards the cost of their training. The Council must secure an adequate service within its area of midwives for attendance both as midwives and maternity nurses during and for at least 10 days after childbirth of women in their own homes. It must fix scales of fees and may itself employ midwives or secure their employment by other local authorities or voluntary organisations. It is entitled to an annual grant from the Exchequer in respect of this midwifery service. It may appoint health visitors, and attend to the health of expectant and nursing mothers and of children under 5 who attend schools not recognised by the Board of Education. The establishment of crèches, ante-natal clinics, and the provision of infant foods are other matters to which the Council may attend. Under the Milk and Dairies Act, 1915, it is given the further power to open depots for the sale of infants' milk at cost price in any district where this has not been done by the District Council.

Cost of Maintenance in Institutions. Except in cases of (a) poverty, (b) infectious disease (including tuberculosis and venereal disease) the cost of maintenance in institutions belonging to the Council must be recovered by the Council from the persons concerned. Even in cases of infectious disease, the Council *may* recover the cost of maintenance and of ambulance provision either from the patient, or his relatives, or his estate.

Vaccination. The County Councils are the authorities in the administrative counties for carrying out the Vaccination Acts, and for this purpose must appoint Public Vaccinators for their areas.

Inspection of Food, etc. Normally, the County Council is constituted the Food and Drugs Authority and has to use its legal powers to provide proper securities for the sale of food and drugs in a pure and genuine condition, Boroughs with a population of 40,000 or more at the last census are excepted and become the Food and Drugs Authorities within their own areas, as may Boroughs with a population of 20–40,000, if they are authorised to do so by the Minister of Health. The duties of the authority include (*inter alia*) the enforcement of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, relating to the composition of food and drugs, and dairy products.

Other Matters. Concurrently with the Borough and District Councils the County Council has the right to prosecute in cases of river pollution. Concurrently or in default of the local authorities the County Council may take steps to abate the smoke nuisance. It may provide laboratories for the diagnosis and treatment of disease and for the making of bacteriological and other examinations.

HOUSING

The County Council has, in common with the District Councils in the larger districts, power to help owner-occupiers by means of advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, and amending legislation—that is to say, it may (1) advance 90% of the price of the freehold, if the latter is

not more than £1,200, over 30 years: (2) advance 90% of the price of the freehold, if the latter is not more than £1,500, to persons building or adapting houses or flats to the type specified in the Housing Act, 1923, or buying such houses built since April, 1923. It may also guarantee a building society's loan in respect of such houses. As regards rural districts, the County Council has to keep constant watch on housing conditions, each rural district council having the duty of sending in a report annually. It may take over housing schemes by agreement with rural district councils. It may make annual contributions to the approved housing expenses of rural district councils, and in the case of houses provided for the agricultural population under certain specified conditions may make grants not exceeding two-thirds of the cost of the work or £100 per house and in some such cases have to make a yearly contribution of £1 per house for 40 years. The County Council has power to act in the matter of rural housing in any rural district in the event of default of the rural district council. The County Council itself has also to submit to the Minister of Health schemes for the reconstruction and improvement of houses for the working classes and may, under prescribed conditions, make grants or loans for the purpose; and the Minister of Health may make grants to the council in this connection.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

The functions of the Council here are to supervise and co-ordinate. It may also act jointly with other local authorities and be represented on a joint committee for the purpose of preparing or adopting a town-planning scheme and may, by agreement with the Council of any district within the county, take over the latter's powers or duties under the Town and Country Planning Acts. It may obtain powers from the Ministry of Health to make a town-planning scheme at the expense of a District Council which fails in this duty. As superior local authority for roads it has a particular interest in this sphere. It should protect the dignity of our main roads and the English countryside from being ruined by bungalows and cottages thrown down in heaps anywhere and anyhow. In respect of highways of which it is highway authority the County Council has important powers in restricting ribbon development. It has control of building within 220 ft. of the middle of any classified road and may obtain the same control with respect to any other road under its administration.

ROADS, ETC.

The following roads in the county belong to and are subject to the control of the County Council, with the exception of "trunk roads" (which belong to and are controlled by the Minister of Transport):

(a) All roads in rural districts. The Rural District Councils are not highway authorities and have only such functions as they possess in other capacities, such as the duty of protecting rights of way and power to make bye-laws as to new streets or roadside wastes.

(b) Class I and Class II roads in urban districts, except those which urban districts with a population over 20,000 claim, in the prescribed manner and within the prescribed time, the right to maintain.

In the case of roads thus "claimed" by urban district councils the cost of maintenance and improvement has to be met out of a contribution from the County Council.

Roads of which the County Council is the highway authority are termed "County Roads." The County Council is liable for the repair of its County roads, unless it exercises its power of compelling a District Council to undertake the duty in return for an annual payment, the amount of which is agreed between them or else settled by the Ministry of Transport.

All BRIDGES in public use within the County have to be maintained and kept in repair by the County Council; it can only avoid the obligation in particular cases by showing either (a) that some other person or body is liable for the bridge by prescription or (b) that the bridge was built after 1803 without the County Surveyor's certificate. In the case of a bridge built after 1834 for which it is thus responsible, it is also responsible for the approaches for the space of 300 yards on either side. A Council may enter into an agreement with another highway authority by which the latter undertakes the building or improving of a bridge.

The Council may also by agreement with the owner of a bridge carrying a public carriage road take it over, or may obtain an order from the Ministry of Transport to the same effect.

It may delegate its functions as respects any particular road to the District Council in whose area the road lies, the District Council being then the agents of the County Council. Apart from Class I and Class II roads a District Council is, as a general rule, entitled on application to have such a delegation. On the other hand, the County Council may by agreement with an urban district council arrange to take over the maintenance of unclassified roads, and may, on the urban district council's application, have roads rural in character transferred to itself so as to avoid the necessity of keeping up a separate staff of road officers.

Another function of the independent kind which the County Council exercises in this sphere is the licensing and registration of locomotives and motor cars and the levying of duties thereon. It can make regulations regarding the form of their wheels, the weight of loads, and the putting up of gates on highways, and can exempt from lighting regulations vehicles carrying farm produce in harvesting time.

As regards roads other than main roads the Council has important supervisory powers. It can compel the authority responsible for a road to repair it or appoint a person to do it at the authority's expense. If a District Council fails to carry out its duties of protecting a public right of way or a roadside waste, the County Council can step in and take action instead, and where a District Council wishes to charge road expenses on a particular parish or parishes rather than on the whole district it must obtain the County Council's sanction.

As regards powers of the concurrent type a County Council has the same power as other road authorities of sharing in the cost of upkeep of highways or of drainage works designed to protect or improve highways, of buying and working ferries for the use of its area, and of applying to the Ministry of Transport for a loan from the Road Fund. In the latter case no conditions can be imposed on a Council accepting a loan without the Council's consent or that of the Ministry of Health. Further, it may, with the sanction of the Ministry of Labour, obtain powers of acquiring land to build or improve a road where the work is likely to relieve unemployment.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

By the Local Government Act, 1929, all the functions of the existing Poor Law Authorities, who were mainly the Boards of Guardians, were transferred to the County Councils in all areas outside County Boroughs. The County Councils were given the duty of providing for the administration of these new functions by drawing up an administrative scheme to be approved by the Minister of Health, but they were not confined to providing that these new duties should all be carried out under the Poor Law. They were allowed to provide health and educational services, which they were already providing under other Acts of Parliament, exclusively by virtue of the latter, *e.g.*, to treat the destitute blind under the Blind Persons Act or the education of Poor

Law children under the Education Act. This is the avenue along which alone under existing legislation, that reform which progressive observers have long advocated—the break-up of the Poor Law—lies.

By this administrative scheme a Public Assistance Committee of the Council is set up, two-thirds of whom at least are Council members. All matters relating to the exercise by the Council of their functions under the Poor Law Act have to stand referred to this Committee, except the power of raising rates or loans. In addition there are local sub-committees of the Public Assistance Committee for different areas of the county.

Through its Public Assistance Committee, then, the Council has to exercise the functions hitherto carried on by the Boards of Guardians, except to the extent that it avails itself of the opportunities it has of administering relief otherwise than under the Poor Law. Those functions include the provision both of indoor and of outdoor relief. Continuous indoor relief, *i.e.*, in work-houses and similar poor law institutions may be given to those paupers who, are "settled" in the county. (A person is "settled" in the county either (*a*) after living there for three years or (*b*) after he has been chargeable to it for one year; a wife is settled in the husband's and a legitimate child in the father's place of settlement.) Temporary indoor relief may be given to persons who are not settled in the area. The Council may contract with another County Council for the maintenance of its paupers in the institutions of that Council, may arrange for the boarding-out of pauper children, and may send them to certified schools. It may provide hospitals and other accommodation for invalid paupers. Outdoor relief may be in money or kind (*e.g.*, bread or clothing). Medical or surgical appliances may be given, children apprenticed or educated, land may be allotted or emigration expenses paid. Rent may not be paid, although persons evicted for non-payment of rent may be afforded special relief on this account.

POLICE

The Standing Joint Committee of the County Council and Quarter Sessions (see page 5) is the authority controlling the County Police. Boroughs with a population of 10,000 or over were originally allowed to have a separate force, but at present only those with a population of 20,000 have this privilege. This, however, does not prevent any borough or even a county borough from arranging that they should come into the administrative county for police purposes, and not a few have availed themselves of this possibility, the terms being settled by a formal agreement in each case.

The police area is divided into districts by the Standing Joint Committee. The latter manages police buildings, settles the number of police and the rules governing the force, and appoints the Chief Constable, subject throughout to the approval of the Home Secretary and the detailed regulations from time to time issued by his department.

Half the expenses are paid by the Government grant and the balance is met by the County Rate and other receipts, the Joint Committee directing whether any items are to be charged on particular districts only.

LICENSING AND BYE-LAWS

The Council is the licensing authority for explosives factories and the sale of agricultural poisons, as well as for locomotives and motor cars: it may also license theatres and cinemas, and, again in its rôle of guardian of the young, must proceed against any place of entertainment holding its licence which does not comply with the statutory regulations as to child safety. It is the registration authority for theatrical employers and persons exhibiting or training performing animals. It may, by agreement with the Commissioners

of Customs and Excise, collect entertainment duty. If a war charity or charity for the blind wishes to launch a public appeal, it must first be registered by the Council.

Subject to Home Office approval in each case, bye-laws for good rule and government may be passed by the Council regulating advertisements, bathing, public shows, restricting the use of roundabouts, swings or shooting galleries, the vocal exuberance of charabanc parties and such like, prohibiting definite nuisances like dangerous animals in streets or spitting on pavements or regulating the appearance or prohibiting the establishment of petroleum filling stations.

AGRICULTURE

The Council must refer all matters relating to Agriculture to its Agriculture Committee, which has as sub-committees the Smallholdings and Allotments Committee and the Diseases of Animals Committee. As from October, 1946, the Council's powers to give agricultural education partly cease. Instruction and advice to farmers, etc., will pass to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Council's powers will be limited to youth education in agriculture, though they henceforward become obligatory.

It is the duty of the Council to provide smallholdings where there is demand by persons able and willing to buy or lease and cultivate them, if the Council thinks no loss will be incurred; and it *may* do so even where a loss will be entailed, and apply to the Ministry of Agriculture for contribution to make up the loss. And, generally, land may be acquired by the Council for division into smallholdings: if the Ministry of Agriculture approves, the Council may force an owner to sell or let his property for this purpose, as long as this is not part of a park, pleasure ground, house farm or dwelling house. Labourers who are displaced in the process are entitled to compensation. The Council leases or sells the holdings to persons who intend to cultivate them themselves or to co-operative bodies of such persons. It may advance them 90 per cent. of the purchase price and the cost of equipment. It may also provide cottage holdings to persons intending to reside there permanently and able to cultivate them satisfactorily.

The Council may be called upon by the Ministry to carry out these powers. It may not exceed a penny rate but may have its necessary losses refunded by the Ministry. It may contract a loan for the purpose of buying land for eighty years.

Other duties¹ devolving on the County Council are (a) to administer the Diseases of Animals Acts; (b) to enforce the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act and the Destructive Insects and Pests Act; (c) to carry out the Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs Act, which provides that an agricultural analyst and one or more official samplers be appointed subject to the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture. And by no means the least of its duties and one which gives the Council an excellent field for the display of its initiative is that of putting forward schemes for the development of rural industries and rural social life.

In the matter of the provision of ALLOTMENTS the Council has important supervisory powers throughout the whole of its area. It has to ascertain what demand exists in each locality, and if the council of a borough, urban district or rural parish does not adequately meet the demand, it may exercise the defaulting authority's powers at the latter's expense, with the Ministry of Agriculture in the background ready to take action itself if dissatisfied with

¹ During the war of 1939-1945, some of these duties were temporarily transferred to County War Agriculture Committees of the Ministry of Agriculture. Where they will lie in future is still open to doubt.

the County Council's rate of progress. The power of conducting local enquiries which the County Council exercises in the matter is of no little assistance to the lesser authorities, many a recalcitrant landlord being brought to see reason by the mere threat of such a step.

The Council may apply to the Ministry of Agriculture to be made the drainage authority¹ for any district in its area, with powers to levy a drainage rate.

It has also various powers with regard to land within the county outside the jurisdiction of a Catchment Board, the execution of drainage work in small areas and the maintenance of watercourses.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Council is the registration authority and must create registration districts and appoint salaried registrars of births and deaths, and of marriages as required by the Registration Acts. It is, further, the authority for registering nursing homes and has power to refuse or cancel registration in certain cases. It is also the authority for enforcing the Shops Act in its area apart from boroughs and those urban districts which have a population of 20,000 or over. It must, further, provide local standards, and appoint inspectors, of weights and measures: it has to appoint inspectors of gas meters for the protection of consumers, and take steps against retailers giving short weight in coal or tea: it has to prevent the sale of textile fabrics as non-inflammable unless they are up to Home Office standard. It has power to acquire or contribute towards the upkeep of historic monuments; to make contributions to organisations which advertise the amenities of the British Isles; to apply for orders prohibiting the killing of wild birds at certain times or the stealing of their eggs; to promote or oppose Bills in Parliament, if a resolution to that effect is taken by a majority of the whole Council and has Ministry of Health sanction. Under the Unemployed (Relief Works) Act, 1920, it has power to take possession of land for roadmaking or afforestation in the interests of the unemployed, while under the Public Works Facilities Act, 1930, it may obtain special powers for entering upon land in order to promote work for the unemployed.

The County Council has authority to review and alter the boundaries of parishes, but since the Local Government (Boundary Commission) Act, 1945, was passed, has lost its power to make a periodical revision of district boundaries.

With regard to rural parishes the County Council has a variety of functions. It can settle matters relating to elections and election disputes, and fix the number of councillors. It can establish or dissolve a Parish Council: can confer the powers of a Parish Council on the Parish Meeting: where a parish with a population of less than 100 desires to have a Parish Council, it must obtain the County Council's sanction. Its approval is likewise necessary where a parish wishes to contract a loan or to acquire property for parish purposes by compulsory purchase, or to obtain an open space for a park or recreation ground under the Open Spaces Acts (1877-99), or where a Parish Meeting desires to act as lighting authority under the Lighting and Watching Act, 1833; it can alter the boundaries of parish areas for purposes of Adoptive Acts; it can set enquiries on foot and hear disputes as to the custody of parish documents.

With regard to Urban and Rural Districts its powers are also considerable. It fixes the number of councillors, may direct their retirement simultaneously at the end of the third year on their application (to be backed in the case of an Urban District by a two-thirds majority of the District Council), and settles matters relating to elections.

¹ At present a function of the County W.A.E.C.

6 Conclusion

From the above account of the County Council's functions it will have been observed that it holds a kind of half-way house between the Central Government and the lesser organs of local government. In this it has a unique position not held by the Council of the County Borough, for the latter is a self-contained area.

On the one hand the hold which the Government Departments exercise by means of the grants-in-aid, and the audit of accounts, keeps the County Council in close touch with Whitehall, while it must itself maintain a vigilant watch over its Borough, District and Parish Councils. Nor was the system entirely rigid, for ss. 10-28 of the 1888 Act made it possible for the County Council to be given powers hitherto exercised by Government Departments, and in its turn to transfer some of its own to the lesser bodies. However, County Councils showed no eagerness to avail themselves of these provisions. There is no doubt that the Government Departments transact a considerable amount of business of mainly local interest which could with greater effect be done by responsible and efficient authorities closer to the scene of action.

While the County Councils have been slow to make use of their opportunities of widening their sphere of responsibility, they have been looking with a jealous eye on the inroads made therein by the extensions of the county borough system. True it is that the growth of the municipalities has meant the cutting off of large slices of most productive territory from the administrative county—as is most visible in the most highly industrialised counties of Lancashire and Yorkshire: and there is something solid in the grievance that this continued process puts the County in a state of permanent uncertainty and dislocation. On the whole, however, while one recognises that fuller use should be made of the County Council as a co-ordinating authority in matters like town planning and water supply, the impression produced is that the Councils would be in a stronger position if they made further use of those powers of which nobody seeks to deprive them. And if a Council feels its powers of inventiveness exhausted, it were high time it opened its windows and admitted some of the freshness from outside, even at the risk of making room for that more progressive section of the electorate to which the County Councils as a whole have for too long remained strangers.

For the reader will have satisfied himself that the powers the County Council now possesses are of no mean order. In its keeping lies in great measure the mental, moral and physical development of the children on whom our main hope for the future rests: to it likewise is entrusted the care of our countryside, and the fostering of that back-to-the-land movement which many regard as the surest means of our rehabilitation after the ravages of a world war. Add to this that it now has within its own hands the means of breaking up the Poor Law, and thus of making the most far-reaching change for good that any local governing body has ever been capable of achieving. With such considerations in our minds our fear will not be lest its work should fail the County Council, but lest the County Council fall short of its work. Our apprehensions would be lessened by the abolition of some obvious anomalies to modern ideas of representative government—the times of Council meetings, and the expenses attached to candidature for Council elections. That improvement in such detailed matters will help there is no doubt: for the rest it is for the elected councillor, whoever and from whatever party he be, to approach in a spirit free from political prejudices, and regardless of particular interests already adequately protected, those all-important functions which he is called upon to use to the fullest advantage of the community.

WHAT TO READ

ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Those readers who wish to study local government and its problems more extensively will find the following list of books and pamphlets a useful guide. Most of them are quite readable and of reasonable length, but many will not be in print when required and will have to be sought in libraries, etc.

FABIAN PAMPHLETS

TRACT SERIES (uniform with this pamphlet, revised 1946).

62	Parish and District Councils		6d
189	Urban District Councils	by C. M. Lloyd	6d
190	Metropolitan Borough Councils	by C. R. Attlee	6d
191	Borough Councils	by C. R. Attlee	6d

RESEARCH SERIES

46	Scottish Local Government	by W. H. Marwick	6d
47	Reform of the Rating System	by John Sullivan	6d
63	Regional Government	by Regionaliter	6d
90	The Education Act, 1944	Shena D. Simon	1/-

Further pamphlets are being prepared. Up-to-date booklets are always obtainable from the Fabian Bookshop, 11, Dartmouth Street, S.W.1.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Local Government in England and Wales

by W. E. Jackson Penguin 1945 9d

The A.B.C. of Local Government

by C. Kent Wright Evans 1939 4/6

Local Government in Britain

by E. L. Hasluck C.U.P. 1936 12/6

A Century of Municipal Progress

Edited by H. J. Laski, W. I. Jennings and W. A. Robson Allen & Unwin ... 1936 21/-

The Councillor

by A. N. C. Shelley Nelson 1939 3/-

Principles of Local Government Law

by W. I. Jennings L.U.P. O.P. 7/6

Local Government in Modern England

by J. P. R. Maud O.U.P. 1932 3/-

The Development of Local Government

by W. A. Robson Allen & Unwin ... 1931 12/6

The Law Relating to Local Elections

by O. F. Dowson and H. W. Wightwick Knight 1945 25/-

The Reform of Local Government Finance

by A. N. Silver Lawrence & Wishart 1945 2/-

Parish Councils

Village Halls and Social Centres in the Countryside

} Both published by the National Council of Social Service

The Reform of Local Government Structure

(1942, 6d)

Report on Relations between Local Government and the Community

(1945, 6d)

} Both published by the National Association of Local Government Officers

SELECT LIST OF FABIAN PUBLICATIONS

(From those still in print)

RESEARCH PAMPHLETS

- 77 Export Policy and Full Employment (Revised Edition) L. F. Schumacher ...
- 81 Facts for Socialists, 16th Edition ...
- 90 The Education Act, 1944—Sheila D. Simon ...
- 91 Monopoly in British Industry—W. Arthur Lewis ...
- 92 Colonies and International Conscience ...
- 93 Fuel and Power ...
- 94 Reparations and the Future of German Industry—G. D. H. Cole ...
- 95 British Transport—Eileen Davies ...
- 96 The Farming Front ...
- 97 Spain in The Post War World—Isa and Arturo Barea ...
- 98 Reconstruction—Then and Now—Robert S. W. Pollard ...
- 99 The Sudan ...
- 100 Strengthening the Labour Movement ...
- 101 Take Over Town ...
- 102 The General Election, 1945, and After—Margaret Cole ...
- 104 Cotton—A Working Policy ...
- 105 Profits During the War and After—J. Hume ...
- 106 Labour Control and Decentralised ...
- 107 The Care of Homeless Children—Helen Dunnington ...

FABIAN TRACTS

- 258 The Fabian Society—G. D. H. Cole ...
- 260 Small Savings: The Case for a People's Savings Bank ...

BIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

- 1 France's Place—St John G. Fryne ...
- 3 William Morris—Mrs Townsend ...
- 4 John Stuart Mill—Julius West ...
- 5 Charles Kingsley—C. F. Volhamy ...
- 8 William Lovitt—Barbara Hammond ...
- 10 Thomas Paine—Fingely Martin ...
- 11 Jeremy Bentham—Victor Cohen ...
- 13 Richard Carlile—G. D. H. Cole ...
- 14 John Burns—G. D. H. Cole ...

FABIAN SPECIALS

- 1 Take Over the War Industries—"Populus" ...
- 7 The British Working-Class Movement: An Outline Study-Guide—G. D. H. Cole ...

BOOKS

- Fabian Essays (1931 Edition) ... (Routledge) 4
- Victory or Vested Interest: Fabian Lectures, 1941 ... (Routledge) 5
- Education for Democracy—Margaret Cole ... (Allen & Unwin) 2
- Retail Trade Associations—Hermann Levy ... (Routledge) 15
- Downing Street and the Colonies ... (Allen & Unwin) 2
- Social Security—Ed. Dr. W. A. Robson ... (Allen & Unwin) 15
- Plan for Britain: Fabian Lectures, 1942 ... (Routledge) 6
- Fabian Socialism—G. D. H. Cole ... (Allen & Unwin) 7
- When Hostilities Cease—Fapers on Peace and Reconstruction—(Gollancz) 4
- Fabian Colonial Essays ... (Allen & Unwin) 8
- Co-operation in the Colonies ... (Allen & Unwin) 7/6 & 10
- Population and the World ... (Allen & Unwin) 2
- What Fabians Can Do ... (Routledge) 6
- Condition of the British People—H. Adams ... (Gollancz) 6

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